



# Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:  
October 31, 1992



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**Heating fuel data**, updated the 2nd week of the month.

**Oxygenates data**, updated approximately the 25th of the month.

**Weekly Petroleum Status Report**, updated on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

**Petroleum Supply Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Petroleum Marketing Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Natural Gas Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Weekly Coal Production**, updated on Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

**Quarterly Coal Report**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Electric Power Monthly**, updated on the 1st of the month.

**Monthly Energy Review**, updated the last week of the month.

**Short-Term Energy Outlook**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Winter Fuels Report** (October through April), updated on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

### Contacts

This publication was prepared by Wayne M. Watson under the direction of Mary K. Paull, Team Leader, Coal Data Systems, and Noel C. Balthasar, Chief, Coal and Uranium Data Systems Branch. Questions on energy statistics should be directed to the National Energy Information Center (NEIC) at 202/586-8800.

### Distribution Category UC-950

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## Summary

U.S. coal production in the week ended October 31, 1992, as estimated from railroad car loadings by the Energy Information Administration, totaled 19 million short tons. This was about the same as in the previous week and the comparable week in 1991.

Production east of the Mississippi River totaled 11 million short tons, and production west of the Mississippi River totaled 8 million short tons.

Coal production in October 1992 was estimated to total 84 million short tons. This was slightly higher than in September 1992, but 7 percent lower than in October 1991.

Figure 1. Coal Production

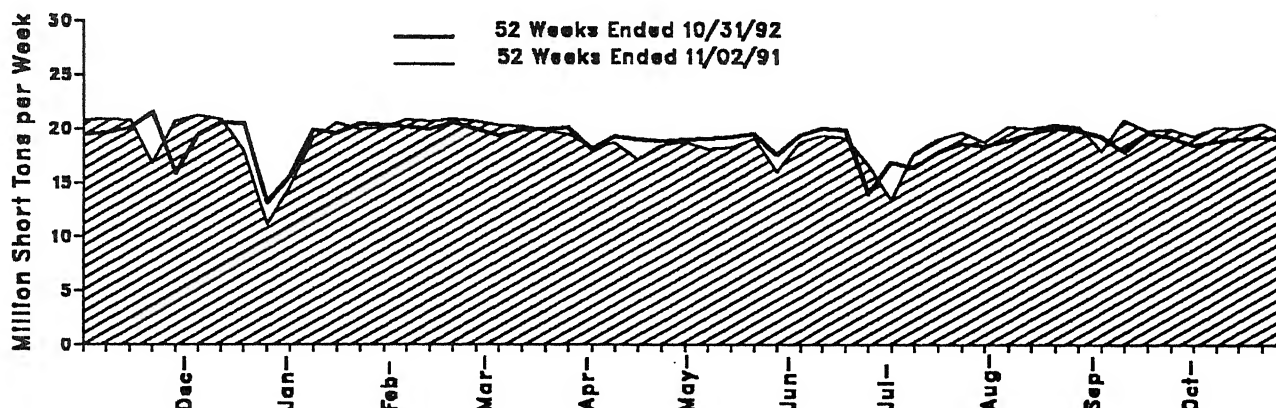


Table 1. Weekly U.S. Coal Production Overview

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
	10/31/92	10/24/92	11/02/91	10/31/92	11/02/91	Percent Change
<b>Production (Thousand Short Tons)</b>						
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite .....	18,959	19,205	19,377	984,587	988,919	-0.4
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	37	47	88	2,940	3,330	-11.7
U.S. Total .....	18,995	19,252	19,465	987,528	992,249	-5
Railroad Cars Loaded .....	125,064	126,851	128,131	6,341,893	6,488,642	-2.3

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 2. Weekly U.S. Coal Production by Region and State**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	10/31/92	10/24/92	11/02/91
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite</b>			
East of the Mississippi .....	11,144	11,402	12,211
Alabama .....	599	605	545
Illinois .....	1,086	1,156	1,089
Indiana .....	473	486	637
Kentucky .....	3,016	2,977	3,409
Kentucky, Eastern .....	2,227	2,176	2,441
Kentucky, Western .....	789	801	969
Maryland .....	70	67	85
Ohio .....	473	555	611
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	1,109	1,243	1,400
Tennessee .....	93	95	64
Virginia .....	859	879	777
West Virginia .....	3,365	3,339	3,593
West of the Mississippi .....	7,815	7,803	7,166
Alaska .....	31	31	36
Arizona .....	205	207	268
Arkansas .....	1	1	1
California .....	-	-	13
Colorado .....	426	352	318
Iowa .....	7	7	6
Kansas .....	9	10	5
Louisiana .....	76	87	50
Missouri .....	42	43	47
Montana .....	713	705	692
New Mexico .....	503	534	497
North Dakota .....	539	533	527
Oklahoma .....	20	23	38
Texas .....	1,066	1,080	1,008
Utah .....	470	429	396
Washington .....	79	80	109
Wyoming .....	3,628	3,683	3,154
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	18,959	19,205	19,377
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	37	47	88
U.S. Total .....	18,995	19,252	19,465

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 3. U.S. Coal Production by Region and State, October 1992**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	October 1992	September 1992	October 1991	Year to Date		
				1992	1991	Percent Change
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite						
East of the Mississippi .....	49,955	48,317	54,851	492,714	494,600	-0.4
Alabama .....	2,618	2,502	2,349	23,109	22,953	.7
Illinois .....	4,791	4,787	5,264	49,643	50,303	-1.3
Indiana .....	2,070	2,184	3,116	26,025	26,483	-1.7
Kentucky .....	13,479	13,055	14,956	132,524	133,277	-.6
Kentucky, Eastern .....	9,820	9,368	11,498	96,601	98,246	-1.7
Kentucky, Western .....	3,659	3,686	3,459	35,923	35,031	2.5
Maryland .....	304	290	371	3,034	3,125	-2.9
Ohio .....	2,239	2,229	2,918	24,059	26,199	-8.2
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	5,176	4,952	6,400	53,324	52,901	.8
Tennessee .....	425	404	331	2,969	3,770	-21.2
Virginia .....	3,924	3,732	3,693	37,421	35,580	5.2
West Virginia .....	14,930	14,182	15,453	140,608	140,010	.4
West of the Mississippi .....	34,331	34,220	35,595	335,595	336,548	-.3
Alaska .....	135	114	166	1,244	1,141	9.1
Arizona .....	917	957	1,249	10,148	10,974	-7.5
Arkansas .....	4	8	4	39	46	-14.7
California .....	0	0	41	30	41	-26.3
Colorado .....	1,840	1,626	1,564	15,483	14,961	3.5
Iowa .....	29	27	29	261	292	-10.4
Kansas .....	40	37	31	321	366	-12.2
Louisiana .....	277	311	353	2,645	2,580	2.5
Missouri .....	189	184	219	2,179	1,916	13.8
Montana .....	3,020	3,091	3,486	30,356	31,556	-3.8
New Mexico .....	2,399	2,481	2,201	20,556	17,812	15.4
North Dakota .....	2,286	2,339	2,676	25,067	24,450	2.5
Oklahoma .....	92	171	130	1,669	1,482	12.6
Texas .....	4,769	4,896	4,699	45,651	45,470	.4
Utah .....	2,059	1,833	1,908	18,459	18,233	1.2
Washington .....	353	364	507	4,115	4,238	-2.9
Wyoming .....	15,921	15,781	16,331	157,371	160,988	-2.2
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	84,286	82,536	90,445	828,309	831,148	-.3
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	178	183	376	2,381	2,863	-16.8
U.S. Total .....	84,465	82,720	90,821	830,691	834,011	-.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: 1992 data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

# Methodology

## Weekly Data

Estimates of national weekly coal production are based on weekly carload data collected by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) from its members (Class I Railroads) and certain other railroads. EIA calculates the average number of tons per carload for each railroad's coal car fleet from information obtained from the most recent Quarterly Freight Commodity Statistics filed by Class I Railroads with the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and from data made available by individual railroads. The average number of tons per carload is then multiplied by the number of cars loaded to obtain an estimate of weekly production shipped by AAR railroads.

Next, the weekly coal production estimate for a specific week is obtained by dividing the AAR rail tonnage for the week by a factor representing the proportion of quarterly AAR rail shipments to total quarterly coal production. Because this is done on a weekly basis, and prior to completion of current quarterly statistics, the factor is derived using ICC data on tons per carload and total carloadings and from EIA data on total production for the same quarter of the previous year. Figures for the same quarter of the year are used in order to reflect seasonal variation. In some cases, the ratio of rail tonnage to total production is adjusted to take additional, more current information into consideration, such as rail or coal strikes.

Once the U.S. weekly coal production estimate is determined, this total is split into two subtotals - the portion representing States, with little or no rail coal shipments, and the portion representing the remaining States, where a significant percentage of production is shipped by rail. The States with little or no railroad coal shipments are Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia (when producing), Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, and Washington. With the exception of California and Louisiana, the weekly production data for each "nonrail" State are developed by multiplying the estimate of U.S. weekly coal production by the ratio of projected production, for each State to U.S. total projected production, for the current quarter. The methodology used to project State coal production is given in the EIA publication *Model Documentation of the Short-Term Coal Analysis System* (DOE/EIA-0394). The EIA contacts the two producers in Louisiana and

the sole producer in California to develop weekly coal production estimates for those States.

Estimates for the remaining States are in aggregate equal to the U.S. weekly coal production minus the estimated production from the nonrail States. Estimates for "rail States" are based on the AAR carload data compiled by State of origin, including separate estimates for the anthracite and bituminous coal regions in Pennsylvania, eastern and western Kentucky and northern and southern West Virginia.

Each railroad is contacted at least annually for information concerning the distribution (by state of origin) of its railroad carloadings of coal. These distribution percentages are multiplied by the railroad's weekly loadings and ICC derived tonnage per carload figures to derive the weekly tonnages loaded by State and by railroad. The tonnages loaded by the various railroads are then summed by each State to estimate total production shipped by AAR rail for that State. These tonnages are divided by the most recent ratio of annual AAR rail tonnage to total annual production for each State. The resulting weekly coal production estimates for the rail States are then adjusted to ensure that each State's production figure contributes proportionately to the weekly coal production estimate previously derived in aggregate for the rail States.

## Monthly Data

Preliminary estimates of monthly coal production by State are obtained by summing weekly coal production estimates published in the *Weekly Coal Production* report. If a week extends into a new month, the production is allocated by day, and the days are added to the month in which they occur. For weeks without holidays, the allocation is Monday through Friday, 18.4 percent each day; Saturday, 8 percent; and Sunday, 0 percent. For weeks with a holiday occurring on a day other than Sunday, the allocation is Sunday and the holiday, 0 percent; and any other day, 20 percent.

Preliminary weekly and monthly production estimates are revised quarterly when quarterly production data, become available. Preliminary weekly and monthly estimates are proportionately adjusted to conform to the quarterly production figure.



## Quarterly Data

Estimates of quarterly coal production are based on data collected quarterly on Form EIA-6, with certain adjustments. The national estimate of quarterly coal production is set equal to the quarterly U.S. coal production total as reported on the Form EIA-6. Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the coal production estimation error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the sum of the weekly estimates for a quarter and the quarterly EIA-6 preliminary data) ranges from 1 percent to 4 percent for 1988, 1 percent to 2 percent for 1989, 0.3 percent to 3 percent for 1990, and 0.2 percent to 2 percent for 1991.

The quarterly production data, although published throughout the year, are considered preliminary until EIA annual production data are finalized in September of the following year. At that time quarterly production data are revised (proportionately adjusted) to conform to the final annual production figures.

## Finalizing Annual Production

Preliminary total annual U.S. coal production, as reported in the *Weekly Coal Production* report in the first week in January of the following year, is the sum

of revised monthly/quarterly estimates of production for the first 9 months (first three quarters) and a preliminary estimate of fourth quarter production derived from weekly estimates.

When production data for the fourth quarter of the year become available from Form EIA-6 in March of the following year, the preliminary fourth-quarter U.S. total production figure and corresponding State-level figures may or may not be revised, depending on the size of the difference between the estimates and fourth-quarter data. As a general practice, EIA does not revise the initial annual production estimates (determined initially in January of the following year). Weekly, monthly, and quarterly State and national production data are adjusted to conform to finalized annual production figures derived from Form EIA-7A, in September of the following year.

Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the revision error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the EIA-6 preliminary data and the EIA-7A final data) ranges from 0.02 percent to 0.08 percent for 1988, 0.09 percent to 0.14 percent for 1989, 0.01 percent to 0.05 percent for 1990, and 0.18 percent to 0.20 percent for 1991. Usually the EIA-7A coal production data are higher than the EIA-6 coal production data, due to differences in the threshold reporting requirements.